

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1 and 12-22 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: **the prior art taken as a whole neither teaches nor renders obvious the combination including:** the bush bearing including a multilayered plate, said multilayered plate including a back plate entirely coated with copper, the tapered surface and the one annular end face consisting of an exposed surface of the copper coating layer, the first smooth circular arc surface having a radius of curvature which is not less than 0.1 mm and not more than 1.0 mm and the second smooth circular arc surface having a radius of curvature which is not less than 0.1 mm and not more than 0.5 mm.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALAN WAITS whose telephone number is (571)270-3664. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 7:30 am to 5 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richard Ridley can be reached on 571-272-6917. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alan B Waits/
Examiner, Art Unit 3656

/JAMES PILKINGTON/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3656